

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 DODE-00 /017 W

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O P 190746Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 847

DEA HQS WASHDC PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI FOR POLAD PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 0184

CINCPAC PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR OSBORN, EA CHIEF OF MISSIONS
CONFERENCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, BM, TH

SUBJECT: DEA CONSULTATION IN RANGOON

REF: RANGOON 0150 DATED 1/15/76

1. DIRECTOR DEFENSE SERVICES INTELLIGENCE COL. AUNG HTAY JUST CALLED TO REQUEST THAT DEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR ADDARIO POSTPONE TRIP TO RANGOON TO WEEK OF JANUARY 26-30. AUNG HTAY EXPLAINED THAT HE, HOME MINISTER U KO KO AND POLICE DIRECTOR-GENERAL U SHWE THAN ARE LEAVING SHORTLY TO TOUR OPIUM GROWING AREAS IN EASTERN BURMA, IN ONE OF USG SUPPLIED BELL HELICOPTERS. AUNG HTAY ASSERTED THAT PURPOSE OF TRIP IS TO FAMILIARIZE TOP GUB OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM WITH CURRENT OPERATIONS, SPECIFICALLY FOR PURPOSE OF MEETING WITH ADDARIO. IN FACT, THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED INCREASE IN ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN IN RECENT WEEKS INCLUDING INTERDICTION AND HARRASSMENT OF TRAFFICKERS AND REFINERIES AND DESTRUCTION OF POPPY FIELDS - THIS MORNING'S PRESS REPORTS AN ADDITIONAL 200 ACRES OF POPPY RECENTLY DESTROYED BY POLICE IN KAYAH STATE. AUNG HTAY ASSURED EMBOFF MEETING WITH DEA WOULD BE POSSIBLE NEXT WEEK AND THAT HE WOULD ADVISE EMBASSY OF DATE ON RETURN AT END OF THIS WEEK.

2. WHILE WE REGRET INCONVENIENCE CAUSED BY FURTHER DELAY, TOUR
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OF HIGH RANKING GROUP IN PREPARATION FOR ADDARIO VISIT WOULD SEEM

TO US GOOD INDICATION OF SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH GUB IS TAKING
NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM IN GENERAL AND DEA CONSULTATIONS IN
PARTICULAR AND HOPE THAT ADDARIO WILL BE AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK.
PLEASE ADVISE.
HOWARTH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, VISITS, POLICE FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RANGOO00184
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760019-0567
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760144/aaaabmww.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 RANGOON 150
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEA CONSULTATION IN RANGOON
TAGS: SNAR, BM, TH, (ADDARIO)
To: BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006